



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BOLIVIA

SUPPORT TO TARIJA

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a comprehensive assistance program that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



*USAID supports PROSALUD clinics in Tarija and throughout Bolivia.
Photo by Stanley Blanco*

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government supports development in 11 municipalities in the department of Tarija. Projects seek to reduce poverty through economic growth generated by enterprise development and increased productivity; improve access to health care for the poor; and strengthen democratic processes and institutions. USAID programs create opportunities for marginalized populations while promoting their social, political, and economic inclusion.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL FARMERS AND PRODUCERS

In collaboration with civil society organizations such as the Valleys Foundation (*Fundación Valles*), producers' associations and local governments, USAID works to improve production and market access for rural farmers. This program is part of an initiative in the Bolivian Valley region that supports close to 10,000 family producers of berries, table grapes, onions, vegetables, peaches, oregano, and other spices currently sold in national and international markets. With the incorporation of new technologies, organic certification, and better quality and efficiency in production, Tarija farmers and their families today have access to new opportunities for growth. In conjunction with these activities, companies in Tarija are receiving support that helps them link these farmers' production to new markets, thereby increasing sales and income for these small producers.

USAID also supports the development of financial services, particularly within credit unions covering rural and peri-urban areas. In addition, USAID continues to support these institutions through the electronic transactions system "ServiRed". The introduction of new financial services provides more opportunities for people to conduct financial transactions, while facilitating the sending and receipt of remittances at competitive rates.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID seeks to improve the health of underserved Bolivians by increasing access to quality health services through the strengthening public and NGO health facilities and networks. Our program supports the Ministry of Health's policy of extending services to rural areas, with a special focus on family and community health.

USAID coordinates with local NGOs to implement programs relating to maternal-child health and the prevention and control of infectious diseases, including Chagas. A housing improvement project, financed jointly by municipal governments, the departmental government, and USAID, will provide more than 4,000 families in the region with better protection from Chagas.

USAID also has launched a Municipal Matching Fund to work with the municipalities improving health infrastructure for the benefit of poor



U.S. Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg visits a USAID funded PROSALUD Clinic in Tarija in 2007.

people. Five projects amounting to \$236,000 have been already approved and will be complemented by municipal contributions of \$64,000.

USAID supports the development of organizations such as PROSALUD, which takes more than 25,000 health visits per year in Tarija, and CIES, whose presence in the department constitutes an important commitment to the attention of health issues in peri-urban and low-income areas.

EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNMENTS

With the democratic election of departmental governments in 2005, Bolivia moved further toward accountable, decentralized government. As it does worldwide, USAID is providing technical assistance in basic institutional strengthening and training to Bolivia's departmental governments to help them assume more effectively their new roles in planning, financing, and delivering services to citizens. In Tarija, USAID supports financial management, budgeting and reporting in accordance with national systems.

FOOD SECURITY

USAID's Title II Program supports local development and health care initiatives in areas of major food insecurity in Bolivia. In Tarija, the Title II program is active in 3 municipalities. In peri-urban and rural areas, USAID supports the construction of basic sanitary systems, community agricultural production and the management of natural resources. In addition, child nutrition and maternal-child health receive special attention and close monitoring. Food for Work is an important component of the construction programs. In Tarija, the Title II program is active in 3 municipalities.

ENVIRONMENT

Through the Parks in Peril program and the local NGO PROMETA, USAID has supported numerous activities to promote conservation of the City of Tarija's principal water supply sources, including a public education campaign, on-the-ground conservation activities, and consolidation of the municipal water committee. Efforts have benefited over 130,000 inhabitants.

USAID in TARIJA

Municipalities where at least one USAID Project is Active

